



The Urban Forest of Tomorrow

Planning for clean air, water, and habitat

Thursday and Friday, September 20-21, 2012

**University of Alaska Anchorage Gorsuch Commons
3700 Sharon Gagnon Lane**



Actions we take today can yield sustainable resources communities will need tomorrow – clean air and water, renewable energy, and healthy habitat for humans and wildlife.

Conference presentations will encourage thought and discussion about your role in sustainable development.

Topics include:

- green infrastructure for clean water
- biofuels
- tree selection, planting, and care for long-term success
- green infrastructure applications and urban forest management will be featured on field trips and at outdoor demonstrations.

Sponsored by:



Alaska Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**
Division of Forestry



Pacific Northwest Chapter
ISA
International Society of Arboriculture

**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
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UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, FAIRBANKS

The Urban Forest of Tomorrow Registration Information

Thursday and Friday, Sept. 20-21, 2012 • UAA Gorsuch Commons • 3700 Sharon Gagnon Lane



Accommodations:

University Lake Springhill Suites

Call 888-284-1887 to make reservations

Conference rate \$99 + 12% tax (if not paid directly by gov't entity)

Includes breakfast and airport shuttle

Reference: Urban Forest of Tomorrow

Reserve by September 5 for rooms held at this rate.

Register online at:

<http://ak21urbanforestsep20.eventbrite.com/>

Conference fees:

	Nonmembers	Affiliate members*	PNW ISA members	Students	Total
Thursday only	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$50	\$ _____
Friday only	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$50	\$ _____
Tree Academy only	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$25	\$ _____
Wednesday cookout	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$ _____
				TOTAL	\$ _____

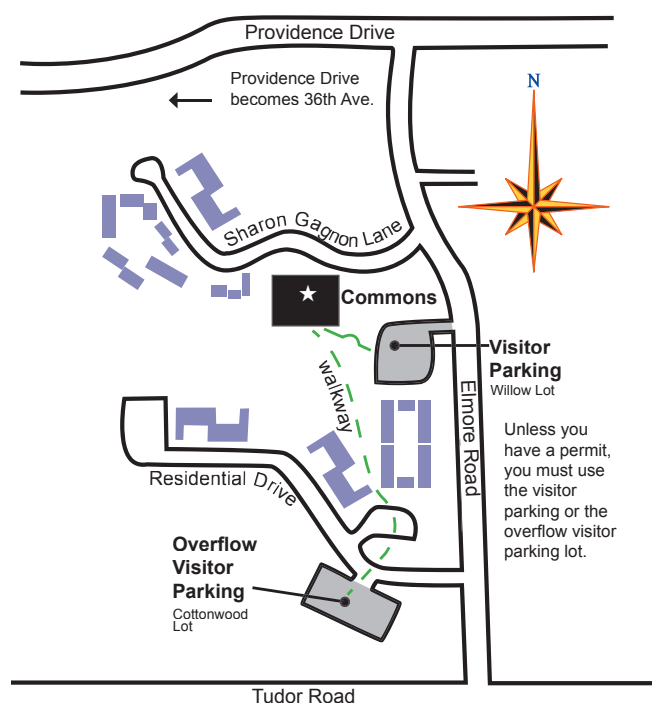
*Examples of affiliate members:

American Society of Landscape Architect, American Planning Assn., Society of American Foresters

Parking:

THURSDAY PARKING: Visitor Parking Lot is located on the south side of the Gorsuch Commons and is accessible from the south bound lanes of Elmore Dr. Purchase a parking permits at the pay n park machine in the lot. The rate is \$2 per hour or \$10 per day, and the machine accepts cash, credit, and coin.

FRIDAY PARKING: There is no parking enforcement on Fridays so no permit is required.



For more information contact Stephen.nickel@alaska.gov or call 907-269-8465



Wednesday, September 19

Kincaid Park cook-out

4:15

Vans leave hotel for Kincaid Park

Experience Anchorage's urban forest at the 1,400-acre Kincaid Park, bordering scenic Turnagain Arm and the 10-mile Tony Knowles Coastal Trail. Go for a walk in the forest or on the Coastal Trail, or just sit and enjoy spectacular views of the Alaska Range. A BBQ dinner catered by UAA, and seafood provided by AK Community Forest Council members will be served at 6:30.

7:45

Vans leave Kincaid Park for hotel

Thursday, September 20

7:45–10:30 **Registration**

7:00– 8:30 **Breakfast** - All you care to eat breakfast served in the Commons cafeteria - \$8.25.

8:30– 8:40 **Welcome** (Room 107)

8:45– 9:30 **Creating a Sustainable Village**

Jack Hébert, Cold Climate Housing Research Center, Fairbanks

The Sustainable Village started with the idea of bringing sustainable housing to the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The university, Cold Climate Housing Research Center, and other nonprofits and businesses held a student design competition in the fall of 2011 and built four four-bedroom homes that are ready for occupancy this fall.

The CCHRC limited its impact on the wooded site during construction. Solar and hydronic systems generate electricity and heat, supplemented by biomass energy that can be stored. An integrated water system treats wastewater onsite. Learn how environmentally and economically sustainable technologies are providing opportunities for hands-on experiential learning and green yet affordable houses for Alaska's tough climate and site conditions.

9:35– 10:20 **Green Infrastructure Planning in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough**

Frankie Barker, Mat-Su Borough

Kim Sollien, Great Land Trust

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Great Land Trust have partnered to identify green infrastructure and conservation priorities

using GIS mapping and community outreach. Ms. Barker will discuss how and why the borough began this project and where they hope it will lead. Ms. Sollien will explain how the borough and GLT developed a GIS-based prioritization tool to identify and rank areas of high conservation value and how they are using the results to target and complete conservation projects.

10:20– 10:40 **Break / Refreshments provided**

AK Community Forest Council silent auction Room 106

10:40– 11:30 **Green Infrastructure in Interior Alaska**

Chandra McGee, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Jackson Fox, City of Fairbanks

The Fairbanks Green Infrastructure Working Group formed to improve water quality in the Chena River, especially where it flows through Fairbanks. The river is currently considered polluted from urban run-off. Green infrastructure is a tool several agencies and organizations are using to help improve water quality. Past and ongoing projects including cold climate application research, a green infrastructure guidebook for homeowners, demonstration projects, river bank restoration, and mapping of high priority areas will be discussed, along with plans for future projects.

11:30– 11:45 **Discussion and questions for morning speakers.**

11:45– 1:00

Lunch - All you care to eat lunch served in the Commons cafeteria - \$11.25.

Alaska Community Forest Council silent auction in Room 106

1:00– 5:00

TREE ACADEMY (Room 106)

Tree Worker Safety & Emergency Response for the Tree Care Industry

John Ball, PhD, South Dakota State University

Each week at least three arborists are killed and many more suffer serious non-fatal injuries while working on tree care or removal operations. This indoor/outdoor seminar will cover how to set up work sites to avoid the most common incidents and how to properly respond to incidents when they do occur.



Trees and forests are important to our way of life in Alaska . . .



TOURS

- 1:15 Green Infrastructure - Best Management Practices** (Room 107)
Tamas Deak, KPB Architects and Kari Sherman, Anchorage Division of Watershed Management
A brief overview of low impact development practices in Anchorage will be followed by a field trip to view rain gardens, a green roof, pervious surfaces, vegetated swales, and other examples of low impact ways to retain wastewater on site and filter pollutants.
- 1:15 Green Networks are Natural Assets**
Cherie Northon, Anchorage Waterways Council; Jessy Coltrane, AK Dept. of Fish & Game; Tim Stallard, Anchorage Parks Foundation
Explore some of Anchorage's greatest natural features – its greenbelts – with streams that run from the Chugach Mountains, through the city, and into Cook Inlet. Learn about the challenges of managing urban forests as safe and accessible recreation areas for people while maintaining ecosystem services, wildlife habitat, and healthy salmon runs.
- 4:45 Buses return to UAA Commons**

Friday, September 21

- 7:45–10:30 Registration**
- 7:00– 8:30 Breakfast** - All you care to eat breakfast served in the Commons cafeteria - \$8.25.
- 8:30–10:00 Urban Forests for the Future**
John Ball, PhD, South Dakota State University
Dutch elm disease, emerald ash borer, and sudden oak death have killed millions of trees in the Lower 48 states. What are the lessons for Alaskans who want to plant trees appropriate for northern cities of the future? Dr. Ball will explain why certain genera seem to be more vulnerable to lethal exotic stressors and what genera may prove to be less susceptible to these threats.
- 10:00–10:20 Break / Refreshments provided**
Silent auction ends in Room 106
- 10:20– 11:10 Lessons Learned in the Wake of the Storm**
Thousands of trees fell or were damaged on September 4 during one of the worst wind storms ever experienced in Anchorage. Arborist and tree risk assessor Jim Flott will show photos of the damage and discuss how cities can manage public trees to limit such damage

in the future and be ready with a response plan when a storm strikes. Join the discussion about the kind of damage observed and how we can select more appropriate species and plant and maintain trees so that they will be more likely to survive high winds.

- 11:15– 12:00 Alaska's Green Gold: Fueling Tok's Future**
Jeff Hermanns, Alaska Division of Forestry
Hear the story of how Tok built a collaboration that is making its community a safer place to live by using the trees that create an extreme wildfire hazard to fuel a clean-burning boiler that heats and powers the school.
- 12:00– 1:00 Lunch** - All you care to eat lunch served in the Commons cafeteria - \$11.25.
Silent Auction winners pick up gifts
- 1: 15–2:45 Pruning Strategies**
John Ball, PhD, South Dakota State University
Pruning has too often become indiscriminate hacking away of tree parts rather than targeted pruning to fulfill a specific goal. This outdoor session will cover how to read a tree to determine what pruning is necessary to improve the structure and vitality of the tree and how to prune trees to maintain turf and vitality. Dr. Ball will also share tips for selling best management practices to clients who have other ideas about tree care.
- 1: 15–2:45 Tree Risk Assessment** (Room 106)
Jim Flott, Community Forest Consultants
Assessing the risk of tree failure requires specialized training and experience. If you are not a certified tree risk assessor but manage public areas where a tree failure could injure people or destroy property, how do you decide when to call in an expert? Learn to evaluate sites and spot danger signs. Do you need a tree risk program? What are the legal risks for you or your organization if you do not have one? A short presentation will be followed by a field exercise outdoors.
- 3:00–4:45 Demonstrations**
Field demonstrations will include using an air spade for root collar excavations and tree transplanting, an Arborsonic to detect trunk decay, options for protecting trees from moose, tree transplant methods, and a tour of UAA's many tree species.



... and as our towns grow the value of trees increases.

Conference Speakers

John Ball PhD is professor of forestry at South Dakota State University, where he instructs courses in arboriculture, forestry, rock climbing, and portions of the EMT-Basic course. He also serves as the campus arborist and as forest health specialist for the SDSU Extension and South Dakota Department of Agriculture. In addition, Dr. Ball conducts research in tree loading and arborist safety. He has a MS and PhD from Michigan State University.

Frankie Barker has been the Environmental Planner for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough since 2006. Her work focuses on water quality, river management, salmon conservation and green infrastructure. She serves on the Steering Committee for the Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership and is the staff for the MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission. She is the former director of Alaska Natural History Association (Alaska Geographic) and worked with federal and state agencies throughout the state to provide educational resources about Alaska public lands. She has created and directed environmental education programs in Alaska, Colorado and Wyoming including being the Field Director for the Keystone Science School in Keystone, Colorado. She has a BS from Cornell University in Human Development and a MS from the University of Wyoming in Recreation and Park Management with an emphasis in Environmental Education.

Jim Flott is president of Community Forestry Consultants, Inc., which provides TreeWorks™ tree management software; inventories and appraisals; management plans; risk assessment and risk management plans; tree preservation plans; diagnosis; expert witness; forensic investigations; urban forestry program reviews; training workshops; and urban forestry, arboriculture, and horticulture consulting services to individuals, corporations, universities, municipalities, county and state agencies, cemeteries, and golf courses in the United States and Canada. He received his B.S. degree in horticulture from Iowa State University and his M.S. degree in forest pathology from the University of Arizona and has over 30 years' work experience in the horticulture, urban forestry and arboriculture industries. Mr. Flott resides in Spokane and is a board member of the Pacific Northwest International Society of Arboriculture and the Washington Community Forestry Council; an ISA certified arborist and certified municipal specialist; American Society of Consulting Arborists registered consulting arborist; and a PNW-ISA certified tree risk assessor.

Jackson Fox oversees environmental planning and permitting for development projects and municipal operations at the City of Fairbanks. He is a key administrator in the development and implementation of the Fairbanks Storm Water Management Program. Mr. Fox chairs the Fairbanks Storm Water Advisory Committee and manages the multi-agency compliance efforts for the Fairbanks area municipal storm water permit collectively held by the City of Fairbanks, City of North Pole, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities. He is also the certifying official for the local storm water plan review and inspection program for all privately funded development projects within the Urbanized Area of Fairbanks and North Pole. Mr. Fox has an A.A.S. in Renewable Resources, B.S. in Wildlife Biology, B.S. in Fisheries, and M.S. in Natural Resources Management from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Jack Hébert is President, CEO, and founding Chair of the Cold Climate Housing Research Center, an organization committed to promoting safe, affordable, durable, and energy efficient housing for cold climate regions. As owner of Hébert Homes, LLC, Mr. Hébert has been designing and building homes in Alaska for more than 30 years. He has received numerous honors including a 2010 Cascadia Fellowship for his contributions to sustainable building design and science, the first State of Alaska Governor's Award for Excellence in Energy Efficient Design, and the Energy Rated Homes of Alaska President's Award. He was twice named Alaska State Homebuilder of the Year and served as the National Association of Homebuilders' National Vice-Chair for the five northwest states.

Conference Speakers

Jeff Hermanns joined the Division of Forestry in 2006 as Tok Area Forester, where he has championed biomass technology and sustainable production. He also assists UAF researchers on growth and yield studies, planting trials, firebreak design and stand treatments to stimulate hardwood regeneration for wildlife and for community fire protection. Mr. Hermanns has also worked for the US Forest Service in the Seward Ranger District. While working for Louisiana Pacific / Ketchikan Pulp in Thorne Bay and Coffman Cove, he was responsible for log quality control, forest engineering, timber cruising, road construction, and helicopter and conventional timber harvest operations. Mr. Hermanns has also been Senior Forest Engineer for the University of Alaska timber operations statewide.

Chandra McGee manages water quality assessment and restoration projects in the Interior and Northern regions for the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. Ms. McGee serves as a technical specialist in non-point source pollution and collaborates with non-profit, public and private organizations to implement projects that improve water quality. Ms. McGee has experience in ecological research and the evaluation of water quality data for regulatory purposes and has worked in Alaska, Florida and Maine. Ms. McGee has a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and a Master of Science in Ecology and Environmental Science with a Chemistry emphasis from the University of Maine.

Kim Sollien has been the Mat-Su Program Director for Great Land Trust (GLT) since 2009. She is responsible for all landowner relations, community education and outreach, and partner relations in the Mat-Su Borough. Prior to joining the GLT team, Kim worked for Chickaloon Native Village as the Sustainable Food System Coordinator and Planner. She serves on the Steering Committee of the Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership, was a founding organizer of Bioneers in Alaska, and helped start Alaska Root Sellers, a local delivery business linking Mat-Su producers with area restaurants in Anchorage and the Mat-Su. Kim has a BSW from the University of Southern Maine and a MA from Alaska Pacific University. Originally from Maine, Kim moved to Alaska in 2000.